

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

REPORT

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24 February 1954

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REMARKS _____

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- 25X1 7. In early February, the barracks installation at the northeastern exit of Hillersleben was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. The commanding officer of the unit drove jeep 25X1
57-mm AT guns in the barracks area.
- 25X1 8. In early February, the barracks installation at the western exit of Hillersleben was occupied to capacity. An officer 25X1
stated that, about mid-January, Lieutenant Colonel Stepanov (phonetical spelling) (fnu) had left for Leningrad, USSR, retiring after 28 years of service, and that he had been succeeded by Colonel Potapov (phonetical spelling) (fnu). On 5 February, 4 x 37-mm AA guns were firing at the firing range near Planken. Six JS-3 tanks were seen nearby. On 9 February, 12 JS-3 tanks and 25X1
T-34 tank in the area of Armored scout cars, 25X1
armored personnel carriers, AA guns and AT guns were also observed with the unit. In late December, an undetermined number of trucks occupied by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia and carrying engineer and bridge-building equipment were seen leaving the installation. The unit built a bridge across the Ohre River, about 100 meters west of the Neuenhofe-Wedringen road. After 2 days, the bridge was dismantled, except for driven piles. On 4 February, 6 JS-3 tanks and T-34 tank left the installation and practiced firing at dummy tanks. On 11 February, about 30 to 40 troops carrying full field pack left the installation toward Vahldorf.
- 25X1 9. In the afternoon on 28 January, a total of 9 JS-3 tanks, 5 T-34/85 tanks and 8 trucks occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying full field pack passed individually through Wedringen, coming from the direction of Hillersleben and proceeding toward Althaldensleben. All vehicles had covered numbers. No troops were observed in Hillersleben and vicinity after 28 January. A Soviet officer stated that, on 28 January, troops were set on the highest stage of alert. Officers were permitted to leave the installation for 5 km round, while NCOs and RM were restricted to quarters.³
- 25X1 1. Comment. It is possible that units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div conducted exercises in the Barriere Ziemau area. 25X1
- 25X1 2. Comment. The camps mentioned are still vacant. Wood camp II, south of Huetten, is occupied by the firing range komendatura. 25X1
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- 25X1 3. Comment. Prior to mid-February, the two installations were occupied as previously by units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. 25X1
The barracks installation at the northeastern exit of Hillersleben has been carried/occupied by the 64th Gds Mecz Regt and the unidentified tank training battalion. The 152d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt also believed stationed in this installation apparently is quartered in the barracks installation at the western exit of Hillersleben, according to the present information. 25X1
which, prior to 1950, was observed in Wuensdorf and, subsequently, in the Hillersleben area, is rather safely believed to belong to this regiment which, thus, can be confirmed in Hillersleben until 9 February. Colonel Potapov (fnu) who is mentioned for the first time, is believed to be commanding officer of the regiment. Lieutenant Colonel Stepanov (fnu) is known as belonging to the regiment. The unidentified Gds engineer battalion can also be confirmed in the installation until late December 1953. The 2503d Gds AAA Regt (US) which, 25X1
mentioned, is vaguely indicated by the present information. 25X1

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